

Bangalore Mirror

ON SUNDAY

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Twenty five pedestrians lost their lives to accidents in January 2023: How unfriendly is Bengaluru to walkers?

WALKING CLASS HEROES

43% rise in pedestrian deaths in 2022

| Ahna Prakash
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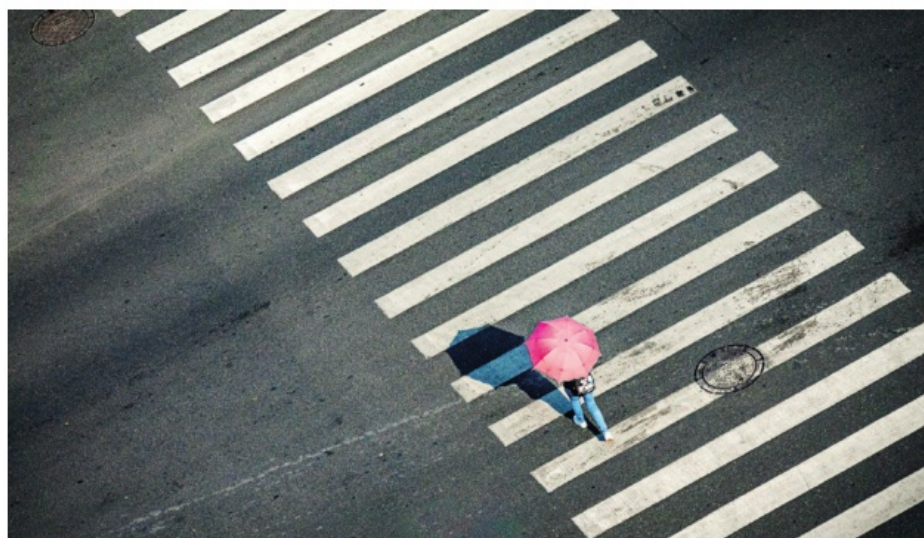
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The city recorded 25 pedestrian deaths and 88 pedestrian injuries in the first month of 2023. Recently, a student was hit by a car near RV College on Mysuru Road. The girl fell 50 metres away after being hit by the vehicle. The incident raised concern among citizens regarding road safety of pedestrians.

Shashwat, a resident of Koramangala, who recently met with an accident, said speeding vehicles on the road are a major threat to pedestrians.

"There are teenagers riding two wheelers at high speeds at busy junctions. Neither are they afraid of consequences, nor they fear the law. I was recently hit by a two wheeler near the Ejipura flyover; the person who crashed into me was an 18-year-old. The police need to be more vigilant about overspeeding two wheelers," he said.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13



Most people walk on roads as footpaths are not well lit and have several hindrances

— MN Sreehari, traffic expert

Women at the wheel...

...preparing to drive e-buses in Bengaluru



PAGE 6

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3 THINGS TO DO



01 Dance it out!

The greatest of all competitions for dance, the Dance World Cup is expecting participation from 56 different countries with almost 1,800 competitors from across the world. India has bagged multiple gold, silver and bronze medals at the World Cup in the last 10 years, and it could be you this year! Link: www.dwc-india.com Register: till 31st March

02 Flower fest



Lulu Mall, Rajajinagar, is back with the second edition of Lulu Flower Fest in Bengaluru – a one-of-its-kind flower festival. Leading Kannada film actress, Ganavi Laxman and popular Kannada playback singer and actor, Aditi Sagar, who are a part of Shiva Rajkumar's milestone 125th

movie - Kannada action-drama, Vedha, are all set to inaugurate the Fest at Lulu Mall, Bengaluru on Friday. The mall has been beautifully done up with a cherry blossom themed décor complete with cherry blossom installations, apart from a floral arch and several striking 15-feet high cherry blossom trees. Where: Lulu Mall, Rajajinagar When: Till February 14

03 Satrangi Mela



India's first all-day queer festival by a hospitality chain, Satrangi Mela, is all set to launch its sixth edition this April. Dedicated to promote queer talent and queer-owned businesses, Satrangi Mela is nothing less than a celebration of queer folks, for queer folks and by queer folks. Their inclusion-oriented approach shifts the spotlight from a tokenistic rainbow flag to the more pressing and under-represented aspects of the queer experience. Where: Indiranagar SOCIAL; When: February 19, 12 pm onwards; Tickets: insider.in

A costly education

Students of Srishti Institute grapple with poor roads, lack of public transport

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The students of Srishti Institute of Art, Design, and Technology have been struggling with high transport costs, bad road infrastructure, and lack of public transport availability ever since the campus was relocated a few weeks ago.

The Srishti Institute of Art Design and Technology was merged with the Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE) and the campus has now been shifted to MAHE campus in Govindapura. The college has a large population of non-local students who live in PGs around the old campus.

"So far, we were in Yelahanka New Town campus and now we have been shifted to the Manipal campus. At Yelahanka New town, we had no formal housing from the institute's side so the students lived in PGs and apartments. There are some PGs that were in a contract with the college to have Srishti's students only. For the last year and a half, we have been told that we will be moved to a new campus and it was done so during January end," Adhavan, a student of Srishti Institute of Art Design and Technology explained.

The new campus is situated around 10 kilometre away from the previous one, leaving the students struggling to commute to the campus every day from



Ever since their campus was relocated to Govindapura, students have to often rely on personal vehicles to commute

their PGs. "We had assumed that the college will be providing transportation to us but that was not done. We were later informed that the transport will be provided from the PGs side," the student added.

The students complained that the services chosen by the PGs for the students are very expensive costing Rs 3,500 each month. "There are over 700 students all travelling from the same location and there are no

“The nearest bus stop is four km away and the road is also in a bad condition

— Adhavan, a student of Srishti Institute of Art, Design and Technology

different stops, pickup points, or anything. That is why we did not find this offer very reasonable. The transport vendor is also only offering the services on the basis of two months contract so we would have been locked in for two months... We have been trying to either negotiate the existing contract or get another vendor to offer services for the students," a student told Bangalore Mirror.

The students also complained that there is a lack of public transport in the area, making commuting a problem for college students. "The nearest bus stop is 4 km away and the road is also in a bad condition. A huge part of the road has not been laid properly and the students have to travel through that.

Currently, the students are either taking autos and cabs or they are taking their personal vehicles. The problem is that even taking an auto every day is costing almost the same as the bus service being provided by the PG, probably cheaper," Adhavan added.

A group of students from the college has tried to reach BMTC in order to seek bus services. However, so far, they have not been able to get a response.

Row over casteist slur at college fest

Some students file petition online about insensitive remarks in skit

I Bangalore Mirror Bureau
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The Karnataka Congress on Saturday raised concerns over use of casteist slurs in a skit performed at a college fest in Bengaluru.

"There is a video containing abusive and objectionable content on Dr BR Ambedkar and Dalit communities being exhibited in a programme organised at Jain College in Bengaluru," it stated on its social media han-

dle. Demanding an action by the City Police Commissioner and Bengaluru police, the party said, "The police should take cognisance of the incident and initiate legal action."

The incident has triggered a row with a police complaint being registered. 'The Delroys Boys', who performed the skit, have tendered an unconditional apology. However, the debate over the issue is gaining traction.

Reportedly, six students from the Jain University Centre for Management Studies have been suspended after the incident.

On Thursday evening a group of students published an online petition on Jhatkaa.org bringing the incident to light. The petition stated the college contingent from the Centre for Management Studies staged an incredibly casteist and insensitive skit at the event.

The student association has also questioned why the skit was allowed to be performed without any objection from the college board

The anonymous petitioners objected to the normalisation of caste discrimination in the pretext of humour. The skit was performed as part of 'MadAds,' a segment at the fest where the participants had to advertise imaginary products along lines of humour.

'The Delroys Boys', the theatre group from CMS, who are in the thick of controversy, in their skit, exhibited a man belonging to the lower caste attempting to date an upper caste woman.

Akshay Bansode, State Member of the Vanchit Bahujan Yuva Aghadi has filed a police complaint in Maharashtra under provisions of the Atrocity Act and IPC. The complainant

had urged the police to treat the complaint as FIR and initiate action against the performers and the university.

Bangalore University Post-graduate and Research Scholars' Association has demanded legal actions to be taken under the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe (Prevention of Atrocities). The student association has also questioned why the skit was allowed to be performed without any objection from the college board.

The university has said a disciplinary committee has also been formed as per the UGC guidelines that will take necessary actions against the students after some inquiries and discussion.

Traffic mayhem in north B'luru

Build up to Aero India show accompanied by major traffic pile up

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TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

North Bengaluru witnessed a massive traffic jam on Saturday, just two days before the Aero India show's official commencement. Many roads leading to the Yelahanka air base were chock-a-block and authorities had a tough time managing the crowds. Now, with the show starting on Monday, one can expect a huge traffic pile up. The next week is set to be a crucial test for authorities as the public will be allowed to view the Aero India programme on Thursday and Friday. If Saturday was any indication, it will be a challenging one for traffic officials. Even the traffic police took to twitter, saying, "Due to Aero India rehearsal, there has been a traffic pile up on Airport Road near Yelahanka. Kindly use Bagalur-Hennur Road to reach the airport."

Saturday was the first day of dress rehearsals. Those attending the programme were asked to be at the venue by 8:30 am. However, the visitors were stuck in traffic right from Hebbal junction. "Usually, we



Traffic jam on Airport Road during dress rehearsals of Aero India 2023

see huge traffic jams at Hebbal junction when we come from the Esteem mall side and head towards the city during peak hours. However, on Saturday at 7:30 am, there was a huge traffic jam from Hebbal junction towards Yelahanka. I never expected congestion so early," said Suresh R, one of the visitors. The second major traffic hotspot of the day was near Yelahanka bypass where those heading to gate ADVA had to take a left towards the service road.

"The next in line was the traffic pile up on both the service road as well as the main carriage way. As we were driving using Google maps, we could see the congestion time increasing steadily. Around 8 am, the congestion time was shown as more than 18 minutes. The traffic was

barely moving ahead," said Neeta R, another visitor who was stuck in the jam. Those who had to take a left towards the Nitte Meenakshi college side to reach ADVA parking lot were stuck right before the gate. Many were seen taking a detour to reach the college gate from the back, but there was no respite for them either.

"The NMIT college road is the main access road for those reaching the ADVA gates. It is sad that the widening of the road to a four-laned one has not been completed yet. At many junctions, the road was a single lane road and the vehicles coming from both sides were stuck. We wonder why the authorities did not take any measures beforehand to complete four-laning before the Aero India programme. On Saturday morning,

Elevated highway shut for traffic on Monday morning

In view of the Aero India 2023 show's inauguration, the elevated road on Kempegowda International Airport Road from Esteem Mall will be closed to all types of vehicles between 8 am and 11:30 am on Monday. Only vehicles with valid vehicle passes for the show will be allowed. People heading towards Yelahanka and adjoining areas can take the service road below the elevated road. Those going to KIAL may take alternate roads from Hennur Junction to reach the airport, said police.

vehicles travelling from Airport Road to the NMIT college side and vehicles coming from Doddaballapur Road to NMIT college side were stuck as the drivers skipped lane discipline, leading to complete chaos. Finally, police had to step in to bring order," said Arun Bharadwaj, who was stuck in traffic for a long time before entering the show.

Meanwhile, despite the traffic chaos, visitors were treated with a brilliant display at the dress rehearsal. "It was definitely a wonderful programme. This is the 14th Aero India show and I have made it a point to visit each of the shows. The acrobatics were simply superb," said R Lakshmi, a businesswoman.

Aero India rehearsals underway

Rehearsals are underway for air show Aero India-2023 that is to be held in Bengaluru between February 13 and 17. The show would be held at the Air Force Station, Yelahanka.

The 14th Aero India will start on February 13, in which Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) will display a unique 'Aatmanirbhar' formation flight of 15 helicopters and a scale model of Next Gen Supersonic Trainer. Taking to Twitter, HAL, tweeted, "Hindustan Aeronautics Limited to display at Aero India 2023 a unique 'Aatmanirbhar' formation flight of 15 helicopters and a scale model of Next Gen Supersonic Trainer (Hindustan Lead in Fighter Trainer-42) apart from LCA twin-seater variant, Hawk-i and HTT-40 aircraft."

Earlier on February 6, Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated HAL's New Helicopter Factory to the nation at Gubbi (Tumakuru). The PM also hailed HAL's efforts in strengthening 'Aatmanirbharta' in the defence sector by building India's largest helicopter factory. Five-day Aero India 2023, India's most prominent defence exhibition, has planned an enriching experience of indigenous defence technologies and systems. The biannual event brings together leading figures in the aviation industry with the business, defence, and government sectors to strike deals.

-ANI





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These citizens need break from dig drama

BBMP has not been fixing roads, footpaths in Puttenahalli for over 6 months

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

For over six months, the roads in AECS Block have been dug up and the footpaths are in shambles. Residents have no access to walking space and are being forced to walk on the main roads. They also say it is a nightmare for them to drive through this stretch.

Even riding a bicycle is reportedly a task on this stretch. This apart, senior citizens said that they have been facing difficulties walking up to the main road because of the condition of footpaths. Despite many complaints made to the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) on their grievance apps, they said that nothing has been done so far.

Ram, a resident of Puttenahalli, said, "The footpath is not fit for walking, and despite being present, people have to walk on the busy road. Most of them do not have railings either. We sincerely pay taxes, but where does the money go? Roads and footpaths are either poorly maintained or unscientifically constructed. Whatever the case, citizens are the ones who suffer."

Another resident of the area, Aravind, said, "I stay in a layout carved out of a residential-converted land (behind the government school). It comprises the 3rd Main, 4th Main, and 3rd Cross road and has approximately 50 sites that are independent houses and apartments. Several years after this layout was formed, these three roads were asphalted. A few years later, they were concretised. The underground drainage



Residents complain they are forced to walk on busy main roads due to the state of footpaths here; it is especially hard for aged citizens

lines were drawn only on 3rd Main and 3rd Cross. Not on 4th Main."

He alleged that patchwork measures were adopted to make the roads motorable. The work was unsatisfactory, and the concrete layer has completely chipped off in several places, he complained.

In many locations, steel rods are dangerously jutting out, he further said, adding that huge ditches have developed at quite a few points. "I

had raised a complaint about the poor condition of roads and footpaths about two years ago. But there has been no response from BBMP. The condition of the roads have been like this for the past two years and it is further deteriorating. Safety of pedestrians has been compromised," he told Bangalore Mirror.

Indira Belde, core working group member, Bengaluru NavaNirman Party (BNP), said that most foot-



"The footpaths are not fit for walking. Most of them do not have railings either. We sincerely pay taxes, but where does the money go?"

— Ram, resident of the area

paths in the city are dug up for various infrastructure projects, but are not restored once they are completed. "This is mainly because the BBMP carries out road work in an unscientific manner. The agency awards the contractor work for a commission without any checks on the quality of work. Citizens should actively participate in the ward committee meetings and raise such issues. The BBMP needs to rethink its approach to planning the city's infrastructure to make it more citizen friendly and sustainable."

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Damaged pipeline Sagayapuram



The BWSSB water pipeline in David Road, 15th Cross, Sagayapuram has been damaged for two weeks now.

Poster problem SBI Bank Circle



This huge poster needs to be removed from SBI Bank Circle.

Incomplete drain Bannerghatta



Work on the drain near Koli farm gate on Bannerghatta Main Road has been left incomplete, making it ineffective.



Locals say children have stopped going to KEB park as the play equipment is mostly damaged

Slide into injury at this park

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Residents staying in KEB Lay-out, Sanjaynagar are upset over the condition of the children's play area at the local park. They also mention that overall maintenance of the area is not up to the mark.

They reported that none of the equipment in the park is in a proper condition. M Bala Subramanyam, a regular visitor of the park, said, "The children's play area in KEB park is in a terrible condition. All the equipment for the children is completely broken. Even the swings are not in a good condition. There is nothing that they can use in that park. The maintenance is very poor."

Some of the people also men-

tioned that the area consisting of the exercising machines are not in a good state either. M Shivakumar, another resident, said, "Even the exercising machines in the park are not maintained properly. The caretakers are using these machines to dry their sarees. Such is the condition of this park."

Residents said that the park has a board displaying the contact information of the official responsible for maintenance. However, no one picks up calls. Manoj Kumar, also a resident, said, "The number displayed on the board is of no use. I tried calling that number several times, but no one picked up the call. This park is a walking space for so many people, but it is in such a sorry condition. Something must be done to make this situation better."

Deepti Sharma, another affected

local, told Bangalore Mirror, "My children used to go to the park regularly to play. However, now that all the equipment in the children's play area is damaged, they have stopped going. It is dangerous too because the kids can injure themselves. There is already a lack of space, and if parks are not maintained as well, children have nowhere to go."

Other residents agreed that restoring the park would help them by providing them a space for exercising. Ashok M, one such resident, said that when the equipment was working, it was quite convenient for people like him as they had a place to work out and stay healthy, but now, they do not have a place to do so any longer.

The concerned Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) official was unavailable for comment.

10 cell towers violating radiation norms

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TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

The Central Government has admitted to penalising 10 mobile companies for emitting electromagnetic field radiations at Base Transceiver Stations (BTS) in Bengaluru beyond permissible levels and has collected a fine of Rs 4,45,70,463.

According to the latest data, the Licensed Service Area (LSA) field units of the Department of Telecommunications have tested 11,61,281 BTS across the country to check the compliance to prescribed EMF radiation norms. A total of 320

BTSs including 10 in Bengaluru were found exceeding the prescribed EMF limits.

In Bengaluru, the BTS found violating EMFs were reported from Arakere, Brigade Road, HAL second stage, Whitefield, Katriguppe, Mission Road, Chamarajpet, BTM layout and Ramamurthy Nagar. The highest penalty of Rs 6 lakh was collected from a BTS stationed at Kathriguppe.

During a recent reply in Rajya Sabha, Union Minister of State for Communications Devusinh Chauhan said, "As on 31.12.2022, penalties of Rs 13.1 crore have been recovered from defaulting telecom service providers for exceeding the prescribed EMF limits. The amount collected



Electromagnetic field rays can distort body's chemical functioning

through such penalties is credited to the 'Consolidated Fund of India'."

The Central Government has put in place a well-structured process and mechanism for monitoring any violation, so that Telecom Service Providers adhere to the prescribed norms

including submission of self-certificate before commercial start of BTSs.

The field units of the Department of Telecommunications regularly carry out the EMF audit up to 5 per cent BTS sites annually on a random basis. DoT also imposes financial penalty on TSPs whose BTSs are found exceeding the prescribed EMF emission limits, he explained.

Karnataka has the fourth highest number of mobile towers installed in the country. Karnataka has 47,490 towers.

The highest number of towers have been found in Uttar Pradesh (90,421 towers), Maharashtra (78,243) and West Bengal (47,904). Overall, there are 7,46,459 mobile towers in

the country.

According to the document of the Department of Telecommunications, "There is a public concern over possible health effects from Electromagnetic Field Radiation (EMR) exposure from diverse EMR sources especially Mobile BTS antennae (Mobile Tower). WHO has referred to approximately 25,000 studies, published around the world over the past 30 years, and based on an in-depth review of scientific literature, has concluded that the current evidence does not confirm the existence of any health consequences from exposure to low-level electromagnetic fields. ... further studies are going on around the world."

Anti-rabies & some: More shots for strays

Animal Husbandry Dept mulls including other core vaccines in its programmes



Animal welfare activists are concerned about increasing cases of canine distemper virus and leptospirosis among strays

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The Animal Husbandry Department of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) is planning to include other core vaccines under its mass Anti Rabies Vaccination (ARV) and Animal Birth Control (ABC) programmes.

According to the officials, the civic body is contemplating including vaccines for canine distemper virus (CDV) and leptospirosis after animal welfare activists have raised concerns regarding growing cases of CDV and leptospirosis among stray dogs.

The ABC Rule 2001 mandates sterilisation to control the stray dog population combined with anti-rabies vaccination to pre-

There has been a growing demand to have dedicated centres for strays with CDV and carry out ABC programmes

— Trilok Chandra, commissioner, health department, BBMP

vent rabies.

"While our basic mandate is anti-rabies under the ABC (2001) Rule, we are exploring the possibility of including other core vaccines to control growing cases of CDV and leptospirosis. A feasibility study on the implementation of this proposal will be done by the Hebbal Veterinary college. The result of this study will be looked at before rolling out the programme," said Dr Trilok Chandra, commissioner, health department, BBMP.

According to Dr Chandra, the animal husbandry wing will soon have two more ABC-ARV centres at its disposal to accelerate the ABC process and to manage CDV dogs separately. There

has been a growing demand to have dedicated centres to treat dogs with CDV and carry out ABC programs on them.

"We are planning to bring in two more ABC - ARV centres in the city. The idea is to carry out the programme at an accelerated pace. Moreover, the department is looking at dedicating two ABC centres to dogs that have recovered from CDV. This is one of the concerns in the city that CD-recovered dogs should be separately handed as the virus is very contagious and might affect other dogs," added Dr Chandra.

While the animal welfare volunteers say it is a welcome move, they add that there are too many cases on the ground, and a feasi-

bility study is not required to include other core vaccines under the ARV programme. They say the civic body must act fast.

"The cases of dogs infected with CDV and leptospirosis are far too many. The BBMP is in denial mode. There is no requirement for any feasibility study under the given circumstances. Even if they refer to the last stray dog census data, there are nearly three lakh stray dogs. However, we are asking for the core vaccination only for the vulnerable segment, which is dogs below three years of age and unsterilized. The condition of ABC centres in the city is deplorable. All the centres are overcrowded and dogs undergoing sterilization are kept in cramped community kennels, leading to the spread of these viruses in absence of any protection," said Nevina Kamath, an animal welfare worker.

CRIME FILES

Rider dies in bike collision

A two-wheeler rider died on the spot after his bike collided with the divider on the KR Market flyover.

Victim Kabir Pasha died on the spot after his bike collided with the divider. Another biker also sustained minor injuries. Eight mobile phones were found on the deceased's bike. The incident took place around 11 pm on Friday.

Wall collapses, 2 labourers die

During the demolition of an old building, a wall collapsed and two workers died at 10th Cross, Mahalakshmi Layout in the city. Both the labourers were from North India, said the police.

Mahalakshmi Layout police station visited the place and inspected the site.

Terror charges: NIA probes 2

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) is probing two suspects in a terror conspiracy case after conducting searches at two locations in Bengaluru and Mumbai on February 11.

Searches were conducted at Thanisandra, Bengaluru and Palghar, Thane in Karnataka and Maharashtra respectively with the help of ISD, Karnataka and local police.

According to the police, the two suspects were in contact with foreign-based online handlers affiliated to proscribed terrorist organisations over encrypted communication platforms and that they were involved in a conspiracy to radicalise youth over social media platforms and provoke them to indulge in acts of violence and terrorism.

The case was initially registered at Tilak Nagar Police Station by NIA. During these searches, various digital devices and documents have been seized from the suspect.

Man dies in bar

A man died in a bar after being hit by an iron rod. The deceased has been identified as Muniyappa, 45, who was an auto driver. The accused has been identified as Shridhar, 25, a vegetable seller.

According to the police, the victim and the accused were neighbours in Sarjapur police station limits. They had come to the bar in Varthur.

The accused hits the deceased on his head with an iron bar because the deceased used to complain to the accused's father about his drinking and substance abuse.



Initially, I was scared of traffic. However, after driving an ambulance, auto and cab, I am now very confident of driving on the city roads. I have also received training to drive a Volvo bus — Varalakshmi, driver

The second driver hired by BMTC is Varalakshmi, who has gone from being an auto and ambulance driver to a BMTC driver now. "I am a Bengalee so I am well versed in city traffic. In fact, I have been driving a number of vehicles for the last seven years. Initially, I was scared of traffic. However, after driving an ambulance, auto and cab, I am now very confident of steering on the city roads. I have also received training to drive a Volvo bus. Now, I am looking forward to taking to the city roads."

A senior BMTC official who is imparting training to these women drivers said the women drivers were initially sent for a five-day course. "The women are training for four hours a day inside the depot and then undergo road tests for the real time experience. As it is an electric bus, they need to know driving as well as system skills very well. If all goes well, then these women drivers may make their debut on city roads after mid-February."

He said that there is a requirement of 10 to 15 women drivers in BMTC. "We are currently looking to hire women drivers. The first and foremost requirement is that the women drivers should possess a license to drive a Heavy Goods Motor Vehicle (HGMV). The minimum educational qualification is eighth standard," said the official.

Meanwhile, BMTC is planning to deploy these women drivers on a general shift. "Usually, we have three shifts for the drivers. The drivers who go on second shift to periphery areas sleep at the location and then take over the first shift the next day. However, as these are women drivers, we prefer to allow them to use general shifts so that they can reach home at night," added another official.



In the driver's seat

Meet two women who will be behind the wheel in BMTC's electric buses — one was a security guard earlier and the other an ambulance and auto driver

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

If all goes well, Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) will have two women drivers operating its electric buses from next week. This week will be a crucial test for the women drivers as they will be taking up the road test.

BMTC is looking for 10 to 15 women drivers who can take control of the steer-

ing wheel of the electric buses. So far, only two women have turned up and both of them look promising, according to the officials.

For Duggamma (top inset), it has been a transition of roles from being a security guard to a driver. Hailing from a remote village in Pavagada taluk of Tumakuru district, Duggamma is now busy taking part in practice sessions at the BMTC depot. Recalling her journey, Duggamma said, "I used to work as a security guard in a hospital. However, since childhood my passion has been

driving. Hence, when I got a chance to learn driving under Nirbhaya scheme, I willingly took up driving."

She said that during the initial days of training, she has been learning various switch controls, mirror observations and other nuances of driving. "There is a focus on safety measures as well as how to close and open doors and what needs to be done in case of a fire emergency and so on," she said.



Medicos seek mental health help on campus

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

With the cases of suicides spiking among medicos, students in Bengaluru's medical colleges are demanding, some support to deal with mental health issues on campus. Welcoming the Gujarat branch of the Indian Medical Association's decision to set up dedicated committees to address these issues across all 32 medical colleges in the state, Bengaluru's students want a similar initiative in the state too.

"My university does not have any

dedicated programs or committees for mental health so far but I think it would be a great initiative. Medical students are under a lot of pressure, especially around the exam season. They spend most of their time studying. Not just that, some students might have family problems, other issues that are bothering them," a final-year MBBS student at Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Bengaluru told Bangalore Mirror.

"I have myself been suffering through some mental health-related problems lately which is why I decided to come to my parent's place for a while. Along with that, I am also trying to engage in reading, meditation, and other productive activities to keep me upbeat. At times like

these, supportive care is very important from friends, family, and college. If that is not available, students might turn to substance abuse or self-harm," he added.

The students said that though most students in these colleges are facing mental-health-related issues, very few are open to talking about it with their professors, and other university staff.

"It would be good if the colleges have dedicated counselors, and psychologists to address the problem because most students are not comfortable talking about these issues with the professors. Not just medical colleges but all higher educational institutes should take necessary steps against student suicides," Shwetha, another medical student added.



A few months ago, the National Medical Commission (NMC) also urged medical colleges across India to take care of their students' mental health by ensuring they get adequate rest, weekly offs, counselling, leaves, and a conducive working environment. Mental health issues are a major problem among the medical education community. A national study on suicides in the medical field indicated that between 2010 and 2019, 358 ended lives, including 125 UG, 15 PG students, and 128 doctors.

No salary for BRT Tiger Reserve watchers

Anti-poaching watchers go on strike from Saturday as they haven't received salaries for over 5 months

Garima Prasher
c-garima.prasher
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The frontline staff in Biligiri Ranganathaswamy Temple (BRT) Tiger Reserve have gone on an indefinite strike from Saturday after they have not received their compensation, pending for nearly seven months now.

A forest watcher at the reserve told Bangalore Mirror that the staff have not received salaries for over five months despite multiple assurances from senior officials.

"We were told that our compensation amounts will be cleared by Friday, February 10. However, that did not happen as well. We have now been informed that the fund to clear our salaries will arrive on Monday, February 13. However, we decided to



The reserve has nearly 140 anti-poaching watchers at various posts

stop going to work from Saturday, February 11 onwards till we receive the pending amount," he said.

However, senior officials from Karnataka Forest Department have

denied any such development.

"No such information has been brought to our notice. Usually, when frontline staff go on strike, they inform officials at the range level or

file a written petition. No such documents were presented to us till 7 pm on Friday. We have confirmed with our field staff, and this is not the case," said a senior official from the Karnataka Forest Department.

The frontline staff or the anti-poaching watchers (APW) of the reserve have not been paid for months. Officials say the staff is paid through the Project Tiger budget, which is a centrally sponsored scheme. However, the fund has not been disbursed by the Centre yet.

"Due to some technical reasons, the annual budget of the project has not been disbursed although we are at the end of the financial year and thus, we have not received the state share yet. However, we have been informed that BRT Tiger reserve's annual plan has been approved and the fund is expected to reach the single nodal agency account of Karnataka," added the official.

In all likelihood, the file is pending with the finance department of Karnataka. Although the officials have assured that money will be released anytime soon. The fund is expected to be released by February 17, he informed.

The reserve has nearly 140 APWs at various posts that are recruited through an outsourced agency for an entire year.

According to sources, all the APWs of BRT have gone off duty starting Saturday and the forest is left unattended.

"At present, not even a single watcher is on duty. The frontline staff in the department have been facing the issues of irregularity in payment for over 20 years now. However, the moment these workers raise their voices on any platform, they are removed from duty. They have had enough of it. Thus, they have decided to stop reporting," said the source.

Home guards made to run for DFO's personal errand

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Recently, the home guards at the fire station at Saraswathipuram in Mysuru were seen washing District Fire Officer's (DFO) personal vehicle. Reportedly, they were asked to wash the vehicle. They obliged without any murmur or resistance as they are posted at Saraswathipuram Fire Station on a temporary basis.

According to the Directorate General Fire Services, Civil Defence and Home Guards' website, the role of home guards is to serve as an auxiliary force to the police in maintenance of internal security situations, help the community in any kind of emergency such as an air-raid, fire, cyclone, earthquake, epidemic, etc.

"We can't afford to object or refuse to do whatever DFO asks us to do. The plight of home guards is pathetic. They are also human beings and deserve respect but our DFO is behaving like an autocrat," said a fireman.

Other firemen added that any complaint addressed to the Director General of Fire Services would not reach the higher authorities due to some officials working at the Head Office.

"The authorities are insisting us to give complaints individually. They are not accepting if the complaint has the signatures of more than one fireman. A complaint was lodged with higher



Homeguards washing DFO's personal vehicle

authorities last year, but the officer assigned to conduct an inquiry did not do his duty as per the norms," said another fireman.

According to an audio, the DFO was heard shouting firemen with foul language against firemen and treats them with disrespect.

Meanwhile, DFO Raju H has described the audio as fake and denied having used foul language against firemen. "I treat firemen with respect. The audio is a fake audio and the voice in the audio is not mine," said DFO Raju H.

Reacting to the photo of home guards washing his car at the fire station premises, the DFO said that he allowed a fireman to use his car.

"The fireman took his pregnant wife to the hospital. While returning home, his wife vomited inside the car. So, he took the help of other home guards to wash the car," he explained.

RELIANCE Entertainment

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STORY BEHIND THE PHOTO

VANTAGE POINT

A chestnut-tailed starling at Sarakki Lake

The picture was clicked by BM reader **Aspari Krishna Prasad**



If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com

Risky affair: Walking in Jnanabharathi

Delayed restoration of dug-up road, protruding iron rods at site cause inconveniences to citizens

Shreyashi Mukherjee
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@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The residents of Jnanabharathi 2nd Stage are waiting for the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) to finish the work that they started 15 days ago as the dug-up road is causing problems to them.

The residents say that the road has been dug up for the last 15 days and no work has been done. There are iron rods sticking out of the construction site, making it dangerous for all.

"The officials have left this unfinished for the last 15 days and no one is coming to complete this work. The site is extremely dangerous. People can fall and injure themselves. Moreover, there are iron rods sticking out from the site and one can easily get severe injuries from that," said Mohit Pawar, a resident of the area.

The residents added that with kids being in the area, the dug up road is even more dangerous.

Arthi Vinod, another resident, told Bangalore Mirror that she has kids and every evening they go out to play with the other kids in the area and this road can prove to be very



The road work has been left unfinished for the last 15 days. The site is extremely dangerous as anybody can fall

dangerous for them.

"Neither I can go with them everywhere nor I can keep them at home all the time. Hence, this work should be completed as soon as possible to avoid the inconvenience that we are facing," she said.

Other residents added that because of the dug up road, they are not being able to use the road at all and are forced to take adjacent roads which are increasing their travel time.

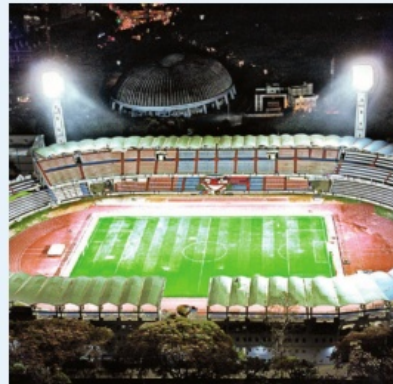
According to Praveen S, another resident, for the last 15 days residents have been facing a lot of inconvenience. Residents have to take the alternate route, which takes longer to reach the main road.

"The delivery people are not coming to the exact location and all the time I have to go out and collect the orders. If the authorities started the work, then they should finish it soon without keeping the area like this because it is ultimately the residents who face the problems," he said.

"The cabs that I am booking are getting cancelled because of the road condition. Two roads in the area are blocked, which is further adding to our inconvenience," said Arvind Gopal, another resident.

Meanwhile, a BBMP official told BM that they will contact the officials in charge and try to finish the work soon.

DID YOU KNOW?



Kanteerava Stadium is the largest sporting complex in the city. Established in 1946; the stadium was renamed after Yuvaraja Kanteerava Narasimharaja Wadiyar. After Sampangi Lake was deemed as an environmental hazard, the stadium was built on the lakebed. Earlier, the stadium had a six-lane cinder track. It has been known to host the Russian football team against Mysore State XI in an exhibition. Here, Indian sprinter Milkha Singh trained in 1952. Currently, the stadium has 8 lanes of 400 metre synthetic track. It is also known for hosting various walkathons and exhibitions apart from sporting events. There are a total of 12 gates for spectators. Located next to Cubbon Park, the stadium also has a restaurant next to its main gate called Konark Kanteerava.

GET HEARD WITH MIRROR

9591233247

Let's see how much you know about Namma Bengaluru, folks. Tell us something incredible and mind-boggling about this beautiful city and our editors and researchers will check it out. If it's credible, we'll give it a shout-out, with your name and picture.

TAP THE CHATTER

where Bangaloreans speak their mind

Tell us about your most memorable moments in the city.



Sam George Sajan, BM Reader

One of the most memorable moments that I had in the city of Bengaluru, was one after I had just moved into the city and went to eat with friends at an eatery in Richmond Circle and now that has become part of our daily visits.



Simron Tandi, BM Reader

My most memorable moments are visiting and spending time in the spacious Cubbon Park of the city, sprawling with trees and greenery. It is peaceful, calming and serene and each visit makes me love the green spaces more.



Komal Lakhota, BM Reader

Spending a quiet evening at the Madiwala Lake, taking in the amazing sunset view and gazing at the twinkling city lights after sunset.



Vinitha Moksha, BM Reader

Having grown up Basavangudi, is the safest experience that I have had since my childhood in this area. Walking to the local library within a kilometre, scooter rides around the tree-lined RV Road, KR Road and Cubbon Park. The cool breeze hitting on my face whilst riding past these spots.



Sujin Babu, BM Reader

The most memorable moments for me in the city are visiting the gardens such as Lalbagh and Cubbon Park, which are usually memorable places to spend quiet contemplative time. Nothing can beat the garden city due to its greenery.



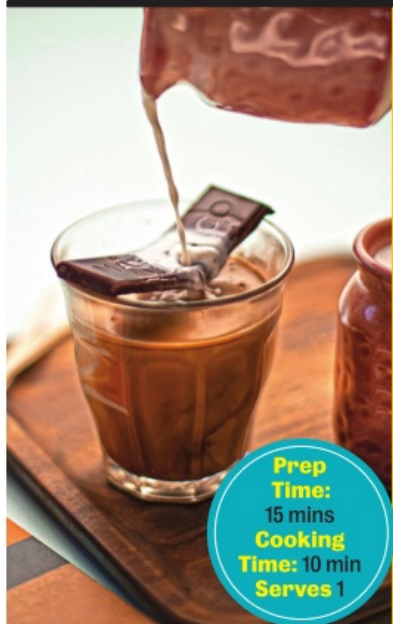
Jessica Pinto, BM Reader

My memorable places to spend time are mostly Lalbagh, Cubbon Park or in the metros of Bengaluru. Each ride in the metro or auto gives me immense pleasure and joy. Visiting bookstore cafes in MG Road and Church Street.

SPEAK TO US

Who are your icons from the city and why?

If you want to be featured in this section, mail us your answer to this question, in 25 words, with 'Tap The Chatter' in the subject line. Mail us with your name, occupation & a picture at mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com or WhatsApp us on 9591233247



Prep Time:
15 mins
Cooking Time: 10 min
Serves 1

FULL OF BEANS

INGREDIENTS

- strong filtered coffee: 45 ml
- Orange dark chocolate
- Dark drinking chocolate blend: 10 gms
- of milk: 30 ml
- fresh cream: 10 gms
- sugar or light jaggery: 1 teaspoon
- good-quality orange essential oil: A drop

METHOD

- Gently bring to heat the cream, milk and sugar. Add the dark drinking chocolate, and mix well. Add a drop of the orange essential oil. Mix well and pour into a pre-warmed small cup. Place a line (about 4 squares) of orange dark chocolate on the rim of the cup. Pour the freshly brewed blend coffee over the chocolate and into the cup. Serve hot.

A CUP OF GOODNESS

Bengalureans cannot live without their coffee and these creative recipes are perfect for a chilly morning or evening drink

CANDY CANE



INGREDIENTS

- strong filter coffee: 45 ml
- dark drinking chocolate: 10 gms
- dark chocolate
- milk: 30 ml
- fresh cream: 10 gms
- sugar or light jaggery: 1 tsp
- good quality vanilla extract: a few drops

METHOD

- Make a mixture of the milk, cream and sugar/jaggery and gently warm it in a pan. Pour this mixture into a small serving cup, add the 10 gms of dark drinking chocolate blend. Mix well along with a few drops of vanilla extract. Place a line (about 4 squares) of dark chocolate on the rim of the cup.
- Pour the freshly brewed blend coffee over the chocolate and into the cup. Serve hot.
- *To make the freshly brewed coffee, you could use a Moka Pot or a French Press (with less hot water), or even a South Indian Filter.



CLASSIC HOT CHOCOLATE

INGREDIENTS

- milk: 140 ml
- dark drinking chocolate blend: 30 gm
- foamed milk: A little
- Cocoa powder: for garnishing

METHOD

- First, make the foamed milk by warming some milk. Pour this warmed milk into a small glass bottle and shake vigorously until you see foam appearing. Next, heat the 140 ml of milk and mix the drinking chocolate into it. Pour it into a pre-warmed cup. Top it with some of the foam you've made, and dust the drink with some good quality cocoa powder. Serve hot!
- To make this into a delicious hot Mocha, simply add 45 gms of freshly brewed strong coffee.

Prep Time:
15 mins
Cooking Time: 10
Serves 1

Prep Time:
15 mins
Cooking Time: 10 min
Serves 1

THE VEGAN HOT CHOCOLATE

INGREDIENTS

- coconut milk (freshly made or use good quality packaged milk): 120 gm
- dark drinking chocolate blend: 30 gm
- any good quality vegan whipping cream: 20 gm

METHOD

- Heat the coconut milk gently, along with the dark drinking chocolate blend. Add the vegan cream, pour this mixture into a pre-warmed cup. Dust the drink with some good quality cocoa powder. Serve hot!
- To make this into a delicious hot Mocha, simply add 45 gms of freshly brewed strong coffee.

Prep Time:
15 mins
Cooking Time: 10 min
Serves 1



MIND, BODY & HEART

Dear Coleen

Until recently I was a bored, overweight, 44-year-old woman, married for 20 years with children at college and a pathetic husband, useful only because he paid the bills. I also found sex really boring. On one of these nights my husband's friend turned up and I was drunk. This friend suggested more alcohol and we ended up in bed, and had the most brilliant time. Now, we regularly enjoy sex together. My husband is indifferent if I make excuses to stay out all night. Me and a female friend go on holidays together where there are lots of singles who love casual sex. Strangely enough, all this has made me fancy my husband again! We now enjoy regular sex. He loves the 'new me'. My friend, who I go on holiday with, says we're not harming anyone because everyone is having a good time. But, what do you think of all this and of me?

COLEEN SAYS

It sounds like you're having a lot of fun, but I think you're playing with fire. It's great you feel better about yourself and maybe the reason you found sex boring in the past was because you didn't like yourself much. So, now you've found your mojo and you're happier and more confident, and it's reignited your marriage too, work at keeping that alive. It's all very well your mate saying you're not harming people, but I don't think anyone can have their cake and eat it without choking on it at some point! I'm assuming your husband doesn't actually know about these affairs, but he clearly trusts you and wants you to enjoy your life. That doesn't mean he'd be OK with you sleeping with other men, including one of his mates. So, if your hubby finds all this out, the bubble could burst. —Coleen Nolan, Daily Mirror

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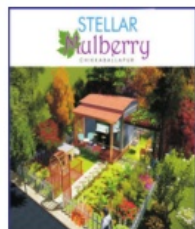
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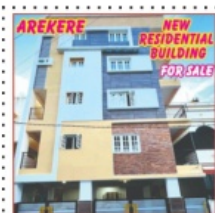
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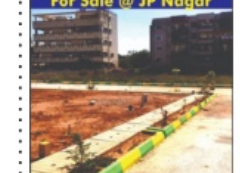
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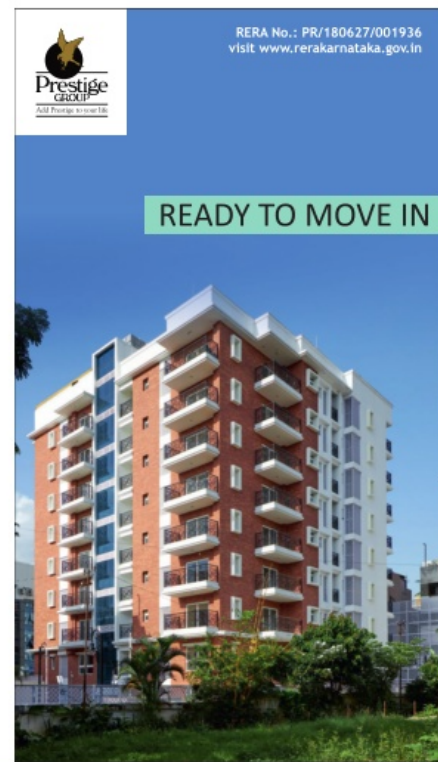
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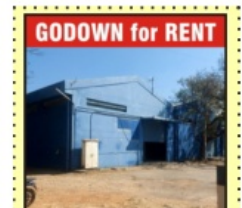


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CHANGE OF NAME

I, AYUSH S/o, Jatil Hiralal Bhavsar residing at No.221, 2nd Floor, KKS Road, Ranka Nest Apartment, Srirampuram, Bangalore 560021, Karnataka, India have changed my name to **AYUSH JATIL BHAVSAR** vide affidavit dated 09.02.2023 sworn before notary B V Nagabhushana, Bangalore.

I, SONIA C THAPAR, W/o Philip Derick Arujah, R/o I-803, 8th Floor, Block I, Arvind Skylands, Shivanahalli, Yelahanka, Bengaluru - 560064, have changed my name as **SONIA C ARUJAH** at Bengaluru.

I, Rajagoda Patil residing at 14,19th cross Bhuvanesh warinagar, Dasarahalli, Bangalore -560024 have changed my name to **Rajagouda Patil** vide affidavit dated 11.2.2023 sworn before notary Jalandhara Bangalore

I Pradyumna Vinay Harikrishna S/o Harikrishna T R/at b-503, Sterling Terraces, 100ft Ring Road, Opp ICICI Bank, BSK 3rd Stage Bangalore 560085 have changed name as **Vinay Yuvin Harikrishna** in front of Notary Rajanna S M

I, Govindaraju M V residing at 211,1st Main, 8th cross, Manjunatha nagar, Nagasandra post, Bangalore - 560073 have changed my name to **Govindaraju M V** vide affidavit dated 11.2.2023 sworn before notary Jalandhara Bangalore

I Preetha Harikrishna C/o Harikrishna T R/at b-503, Sterling Terraces, 100ft Ring Road, Opp ICICI Bank, BSK 3rd Stage Bangalore 560085 have changed name as **Preetha Himaali Harikrishna** in front of Notary Rajanna S M

I, Srinivasan Rajagopalan R/o # 941, Geetanjal layout, 2nd cross, 1st main hal 3rd stage, B'loru 560075 have changed my name to **Rajagopalan Villiyanallur sundaresaiyer** for all purposes.

I, Gajanana S/O, Nagappayya Bhat R/o F410, Nandi Woods, Yelenahalli, Begur Hobli, Sos Village Post, B'lore-560076 have changed my name to **Gajanana N Bhat** for all purposes.

I, Sneha Kulkarni W/o Senthil Raj Kapali R/at #7017, Prestige Sunrise Park, Norwood, Neotown Road, Electronic City Phase 1, Bengaluru-560100 have changed my name from **Sneha** to **Sneha Kulkarni** vide affidavit dated 10/02/2023 Notary Uday Kumar K

I, Syed Zameer Pasha, Aged 63 yrs, R/o. #13, 3rd Cross, 2nd Main, B/h Anjaneya Temple, Madivala, Blr-68, have changed my name to **SYED ZAMEER** for all purposes.

I Jyothica Laxmi Harikrishna D/o Harikrishna T R/at b-503, Sterling Terraces, 100ft Ring Road, Opp ICICI Bank, BSK 3rd Stage Bangalore 560085 have changed name as **Jyothica Parameswari Lakshmi Harikrishna** in front of Notary Rajanna S M

I Kavitha Hemanth Rao W/o Hemanth Rao R/at 401, S S Mansion, Leonard Lane, Museum Road, Opp Richmond Town Post Office, Bangalore 560025 have changed name as **Kavitha Divyashree Hemanth Rao** in front of Notary Rajanna S M

I, Pulkit Kumar Gupta R/o 153/4, Tapovan, Rishikesh-249192, have changed my name to **Pulkit Gupta**.

I, DEVIKA LEENA (D.O.B: 02-06-1998), D/o. Sri. Haridas Narayana Pillai, Resident at: No. A503, Vaishnavi Rathnam, S.M.Road, T.Dasarahalli, Bangalore-560 057, have changed my name to **DEVIKA LEENA HARIDAS** vide affidavit dated 10.02.2023 sworn before notary V. Anjanappa, Bangalore

I, Abdul Rahman Chand Basha Sayed, Aged 39 yrs, R/o. #10, 8th B Main, Old Gurappana Palya, BTM 1st Stage, Blr-29, have changed my name to **Abdul Rahman Chand Basha Sayed** for all purposes.

I, Maya Devi R/o No B 1302 Glen Classic House of Hiranandani Hebbal B'lore-94 Changed My Name Mayadevi Ajitkumar to **Maya Devi** for All Future Purposes.

I, Abdul Wahid, Aged 55 yrs, R/o. #53/27, 17th C Cross, C Main, B/h Madeena Masjid, BTM 2nd Stage, Madeena Nagar, Blr-76, have changed my name to **HAFIZ ABDUL WAHID** for all purposes.

I, Muthuparvathy Saminathan R/o No.418/6, 1st Block, Gurumurthy Reddy Layout, Ramamurthy Nagar, Bangalore-560016 have changed my name as **Muthuparvathy Baskaran**.



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Turkey quake: Body of missing Indian found and identified through tattoo

The body of an Indian, who went missing following the massive earthquake in Turkey, has been found under the rubble of a hotel on Saturday, the Indian Embassy said, adding that it would be sent to India as early as possible.

"We inform with sorrow that the mortal remains of Vijay Kumar, an Indian missing in Turkey since the February 6 earthquake, have been found and identified among debris of

a hotel in Malatya, where he was on a business trip," the Indian Embassy said in a statement.

As per sources, Vijay Kumar's body was identified with his tattoo of the word "Om" on one of his hands as his face was badly disfigured.

Hailing from Uttarakhand's Kotdwar, Vijay Kumar worked at Bengaluru-based Oxyplants India Private Ltd and was on a business trip to Turkey's Malatya and staying at a

four star hotel there.

His family said that his body would be flown to Istanbul and then it will arrive in New Delhi, and then Uttarakhand.

In another tweet, the Indian Embassy in Turkey stated, "Our deepest condolences to his family and loved ones. We are making arrangements for the earliest possible transportation of his mortal remains to his family."

Earlier on February 8, the Ministry of External Affairs Secretary (West) Sanjay Verma had said that ten Indians were struck in remote parts of Turkey after the country was hit by two "biggest natural disaster" earthquakes, but they are safe while one citizen is missing. He made the remarks during the special briefing on 'Operation Dost.'

"There are 10 individuals who are stuck in some remote parts of the

affected area but they are safe. We have one Indian national missing, who was on a business visit to Turkey's Malatya. And he has not been traced for the last two days. We are in touch with his family and the company in Bengaluru," Verma said during the special briefing on 'Operation Dost.'

NDRF in action

The National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) in coordination with the Turkish Army on Friday rescued an 8-year-old girl from earthquake-hit Turkey. The girl was stuck alive under the rubble of a building flattened by the massive earthquake in Nurdagi, Gaziantep in Turkey. **Agencies**

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Gentle reminder: 'Govt can't act as robber of citizens' land'

In a setback to the ruling BJP, the Karnataka High Court on Saturday stated that the government can't act as "a robber of citizens' land".

A bench headed by Justice Krishna S Dixit made these observations while partly allowing the petition filed by MV Guruprasad, Nandini M. Guruprasad and residents of JP Nagar locality.

The court also objected to the conduct of Karnataka Industrial Area Development Board (KIADB) and its officers fell short of the fairness standard expected from them as it took severe objection to the fact of non-payment of compensation to land owners even 15 years after acquisition of their lands for setting up industries in 2007.

It maintained that the conduct of KIADB reinforces the shackles of a feudalistic attitude from which the transformative character of our Constitution seeks to liberate.

The petitioners filed a petition in 2016, questioning the land acquisition and non-payment of compensation by KIADB. In return, the government agency had filed its statement in this regard making a casual intimation to the court that there is delay in payment of compensation, and it would be made soon.

In a relief to Karnataka Congress chief D.K. Shivakumar, the Karnataka High Court on Friday issued a stay on the investigation against him in connection with a disproportionate assets (DA) case by the CBI.

Shivakumar, who has recently expressed his displeasure over the notice to appear in the DA case to him by the Enforcement Directorate and to his daughter by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

The High Court has issued a temporary stay till February 24 and directed the investigating agency to



IN THE HIGH COURT

halt the investigation till then.

The court has also asked the investigating officer of the CBI to submit a report on the progress of the investigation.

Shivakumar had applied for stay of the investigation. He had said that the agency was causing mental trauma to him by issuing notice to him, his wife and daughter.

Reacting to the development, Shivakumar stated that there are 40 cases against him and investigation is going on.

"I will speak to my advocate to

find out in which case the court has given a stay. I am happy that the court has issued a stay. I have faith in the law and the court," he said.

Custody of minor given to father

The High Court of Karnataka has upheld a Family Court order giving the custody rights of a minor child to the father.

The woman's illicit relationship with another man was the reason the father of the child had sought custody of the minor.

The High Court in its judgment noted that she "has given more importance to the illicit relationship of hers and has neglected the child."

After leaving the matrimonial house with the child, the woman had left the minor child in the custody of her parents in Chandigarh while she continued to stay in Bengaluru with her new partner.

Both the parents are doctors and were divorcees. They did not have any children from their previous marriages. They met on a matrimonial site and married in 2011. A girl child was born to them in 2015.

After a turbulent marriage in which the two filed cases against each other, the woman left the matrimonial home in 2018 along with the child.

The husband, after coming to know of the illicit relationship of his wife filed a case for custody of the child. **PTI**

Maximum cases of pedestrian deaths on weekends and at night

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The data provided by the traffic police revealed that two wheelers contribute to the highest number of vehicles in the city. There are 72,12,836 two wheelers in Bengaluru, followed by 23,04,562 light motor vehicles.

According to traffic police, there was a 43% increase in pedestrian deaths in 2022 as compared to the previous year. In 2022, the data showed, 228 pedestrians lost their lives on the city roads.

The city recorded 433 road accident cases in January 2023, out of which 76 were fatal; 391 people were

injured in those accidents.

"We register maximum cases of pedestrian deaths on weekends and at night. Most of these accidents happen at busy junctions and crossings. Despite having several signs and laws to check overspreading vehicles, there are people in the city who don't follow the rules. We are keeping a close watch on such cases and making sure that if someone is breaking the rules, they are fined and punished by the law," the police said.

Traffic expert MN Sreehari said lack of proper footpaths in the city is forcing pedestrians to walk on the road leading to more accidents

involving pedestrians.

"Most of the people have to walk on the road because the footpaths are not well lit; they also have several hindrances. The other thing is roads and footpaths are filled with parked vehicles, so pedestrians have to negotiate all of that."

The authorities and the BBMP don't seem to care about creating pedestrian friendly roads and footpaths," he said.

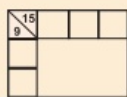
Sreehari told BM that accidents should be studied by the authorities to understand the cause.

"There needs to be more accountability from the police and authorities. Whenever there is a pedestrian accident, a report should be filed. The report should analyse how the pedestrian was killed and what made them walk on the road," he added.

Make 3 digit three numbers using all digits 1-9 (no repeat) that add to 1602 & digits of the numbers add to 9, 16 & 20 respectively.

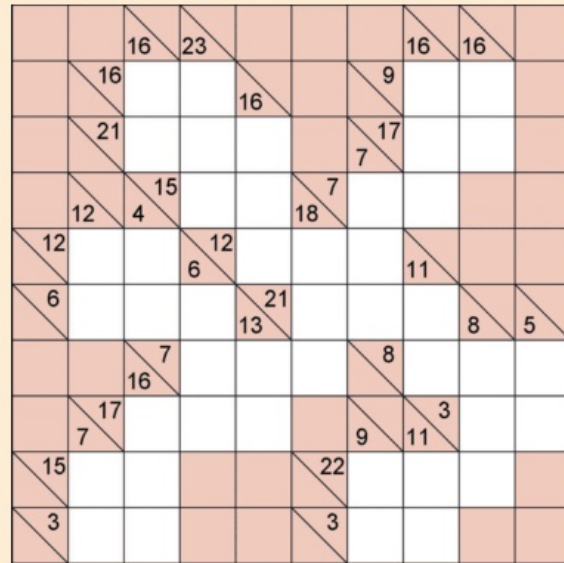
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

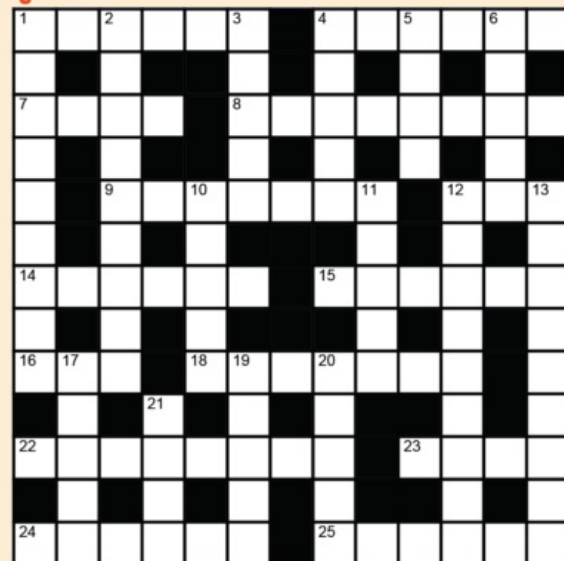


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

- 1 Annoyed, upset (6)
- 4 Tramp (6)
- 7 Apple's tablet (4)
- 8 Courgette (8)
- 9 Unity (7)
- 12 ___ Hur: Oscar winning movie ? (3)
- 14 Talking bird (6)
- 15 Collection of odds and ends? (3-3)
- 16 Popular TV technology (3)
- 18 Spookiest (7)
- 22 One of India's major rivers (8)
- 23 High: prefix (4)
- 24 Wash bowls (6)
- 25 Sausage in a roll (3,3)

DOWN

- 1 Headmaster (9)
- 2 Captivated or bewitched (9)
- 3 Baker's ___ : thirteen, of course? (5)
- 4 ___ off : reprimands? (5)
- 5 Athlete P.T. ___ (4)
- 6 Literary style (5)
- 10 Decay or eat away (5)
- 11 Shop (5)
- 12 Depreciated or disparaged (9)
- 13 Peevishly chatting (9)
- 17 Dynasty which ruled the area around Bangalore in the 11th century (5)
- 19 School tests (5)
- 20 The inhabitants of Ireland are so called (5)
- 21 Ex-Indian captain ___ Contractor (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: G EQUALS C
 ABC GXL'Z ZRSLI ABCDJWME
 BCZ BE X ODSZSLP TMBGI, ABC
 RXQW ZB ODSZW ABCDJWME
 BCZ BE X ZRSLISLP TMBGI.



Linemaro

You're like a weeping angel. I just can't take my eyes off you



Mindchow

How many cares one loses when one decides not to be someone



Joke of the day

I can still remember a time when I knew more than my phone

Loop

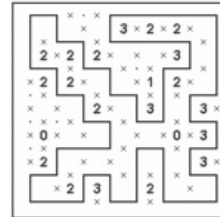
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

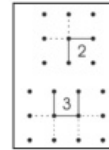
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) - Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

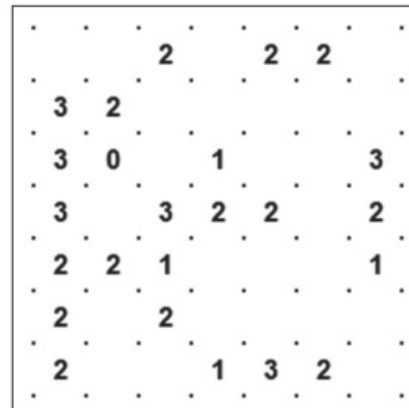
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



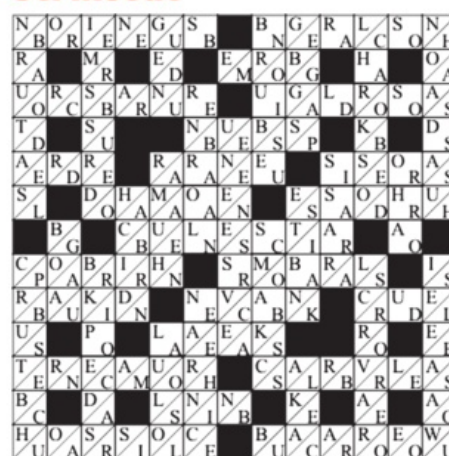
(Fig A)



(Fig B)
Not Allowed



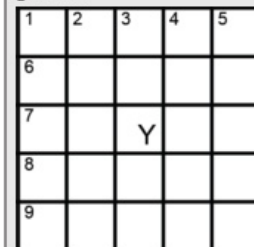
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

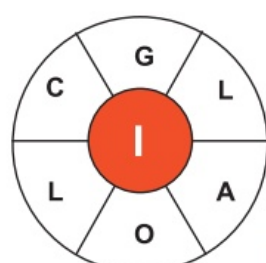
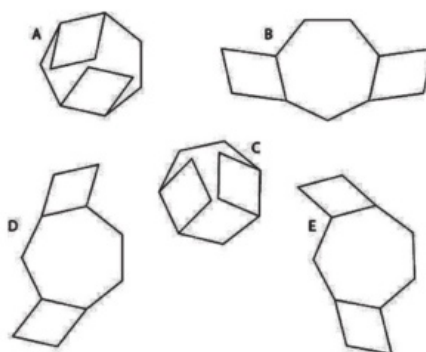
- 1 Has Br; 6 Doyle;
- 7 Early; 8 Cadet;
- 9 Pshaw

DOWN

- 1 Awl by; 2 Orach;
- 3 At day; 4 Peels;
- 5 Shred

Mensapuzzle

Which is the odd one out?



Bull's eye

How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

03 Average; 04 Good; 05 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge



To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



Easy

□ □ □ □ □ = 15

2 2 2 9

Medium

□ □ □ □ □ = 10

1 9 9 9

Hard

□ □ □ □ □ = 28

3 6 7 4

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Arm is lower. 2. Tree limb is missing. 3. Cloud is smaller. 4. Mouth is different. 5. Fence is taller. 6. Mountain is different.

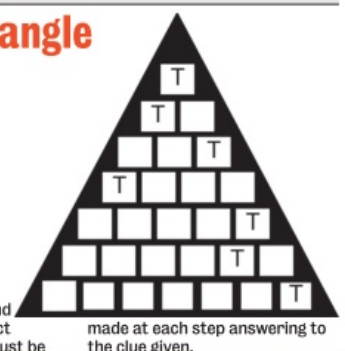
Riddler

What Phrase is represented by this rebus ?
 Give Get Give Get Give Get Give Get

Alpha triangle

- 1 Terabyte
- 2 Infinite word
- 3 Drunk
- 4 Oodles
- 5 Muzzle
- 6 Matters
- 7 Confer with

Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be

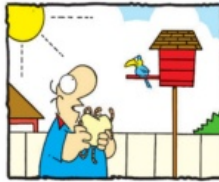


made at each step answering to the clue given.

COMICS

The BETTER HALF

by GLASBERGEN
Featuring HARRIET STANLEY PARKER



WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 - Apr 20

Today you are blessed by the moon. You can make new plans in terms of business. Your colleagues may help you implement your plans. You may recover your stuck money from your clients, which may boost liquidity in business. After late evening, you may feel some depression. This may affect sound sleep.



Leo Jul 24 - Aug 23

Today you are blessed by the moon and your destiny is likely to be with you. Today you may be more energetic and focused on your work. Your hard work may pay you off in terms of success. Your subordinates may help you. You are likely to go for short work-related trips. Some good news may come from your siblings. You may plan to renovate your house or office, where your creativity will be tested.



Sagittarius Nov 23 - Dec 22

Today is a good day. In business, you may get new clients, which will be helpful in the growth of your company. Singles are likely to find a good match. In your domestic life, you must avoid hiding anything from your spouse, otherwise it will create some gaps between you. Job seekers are likely to get a new job. There are chances of promotions.



Taurus Apr 21 - May 20

Today you have control over your opponents and hidden enemies. Decisions in legal matters may be in your favour. Your seniors may be happy with your hard work. You may get new responsibilities in terms of promotions. Singles may find their soulmate.



Virgo Aug 24 - Sep 23

Today you may be able to control your expenditure on worthless things, which may increase your savings. You may be more creative today. You may use your creativity in your office or at home, which may enhance your social status. Lovebirds are likely to get some support from their family members and friends for marriage.



Capricorn Dec 23 - Jan 20

Today, with the help of your strong network, you may implement your business plans. You may use your wisdom to gain profits. You may also have harmony in your domestic life. There may be good understanding between you and your spouse. Those in jobs related to metal and booking agents will do well.



Gemini May 21 - Jun 21

Today you may be happy. You may plan to buy some creative items, which may improve your lifestyle. You may also spend money on your friends and family members. You may plan to make investments in assets. Singles may find a good match. Lovebirds may enjoy important moments.



Libra Sep 24 - Oct 22

Today messy situations are under control. You may feel peace in your mind. You may be able to strike a proper balance in terms of expenditure and earnings, which may increase your savings. You are advised to avoid too much travelling or overworking, as it may affect your health. Students can start planning for their higher studies. Lovebirds may enjoy their happy moments.



Aquarius Jan 21 - Feb 19

Today you are more spiritual. You may plan to visit a spiritual place to find peace of mind. You may donate some money to charity or help needy people. People around you may get help and support from you in terms of finances. You may enjoy every moment with satisfaction and patience.



Cancer Jun 22 - July 23

Today you may seek peace of mind. The moon's blessings may help you focus on yourself. Investments in property and other assets are advised to be avoided. You may have some happy moments in your domestic life, but it is advised to avoid arrogance and ego with your spouse. A dispute with your business partner is likely to be resolved.



Scorpio Oct 23 - Nov 22

Today you may face health issues, which can make you impatient. You are advised to control your short-tempered nature. You may spend your hard-earned money on buying worthless items, which may affect your savings. Lovebirds are advised to avoid discussions on worthless topics, otherwise there might be breakups.



Pisces Feb 20 - Mar 20

Today you may feel dull. You are advised to control your temper. Your focus is tested many times. You should avoid being scattered in terms of your goals. It is advised not to invest in worthless stuff. Lovebirds are advised to avoid making arguments on worthless topics.



KIDZONE



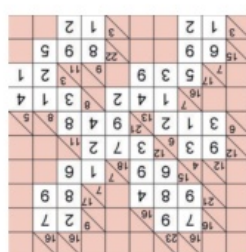
Akshay, 6 Years, National Public School



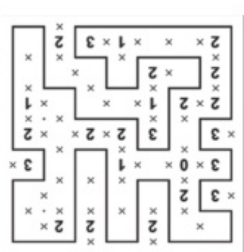
Niranjana, 9 Years, Sacred Heart Girls High School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

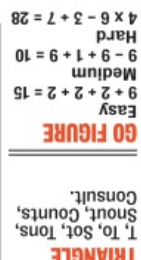
SOLUTIONS



KAKURO



LOOP



ALPHA TRIANGLE



SUDOKU



MENSA PUZZLE



QUICK



STRIKE OUT



BULLS EYE



RIDDLE

Dishy dream

She loves to eat, now Ananya wants to learn how to cook

The foodie in her takes to social media every now and then to show off her binge fest. As much as she loves to eat, Ananya Panday wishes that she could put together some yummy dishes too.

"I really want to learn how to cook," she says.

At this point in time, she lacks the skill, so much that people close to her wouldn't dare to taste something put together by the Student of the Year 2 actress. She shares, "I don't think my friends will really enjoy it if I cook for them at this point in time."

The actress feels that over a period of time cooking has become her passion. Thanks to all the free time she got during the lockdown where she followed a lot of cookery shows. "I have begun to enjoy my time spent in the kitchen. For now, I would like to learn to cook some nice pasta dishes. I remember calling someone the other day and enquiring about taking up classes on cooking pasta," she says.

For now, Ananya is celebrating the first anniversary of Gehraiyaan today. The film starred Siddhant Chaturvedi and Deepika Padukone. She is now looking forward to the release of Dream Girl 2. Talking about the film, she had said, "Dream Girl 2 is a full-on comedy film and it has a great ensemble cast. I am working with fantastic talents like Paresh Rawal ji, Asrani saab, Rajpal Yadav sir, Seema Pahwa maam, Manoj Joshi sir and the list goes on. I am literally like a student on set. When you get into an Ayushmann Khurrana starrer and work with him, you are surely going to come out well learned."

— Onkar Kulkarni, ETimes



Inspiration for Alia's look

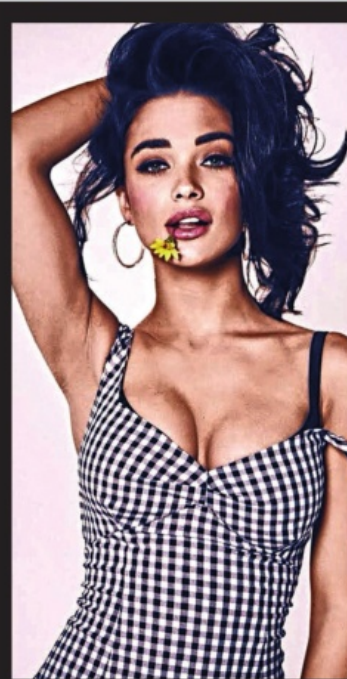
Alia Bhatt is gearing up to shoot for her romantic song with Ranveer Singh in Karan Johar's Rocky Aur Rani Ki Prem Kahaani. And the reference point for Alia's look in the song is Sridevi in Yash Chopra's Chandni. This romantic duet would be Karan Johar's homage to his mentor and guru Yash Chopra.

A source close to Karan Johar informs that he has selected Sridevi in Yash Chopra's Chandni as the role model for Alia Bhatt in Rocky Aur Rani Ki Prem Kahaani.

Manish Malhotra will be styling Alia in a chiffon saree, a la Sridevi. Alia will wear a minimalist look as she emotes to a Pritam love ballad.

Rocky Aur Rani Ki Prem Kahaani also features Dharmendra, Shabana Azmi and Jaya Bachchan in the cast.

— ETimes



Mercury rising

10 jaw-dropping looks of Amy Jackson that are raising the temperature on Instagram

Watch this story come alive by pointing your phone camera at the QR code



Make a quick buck flick



RUPAYI

2.5
RATING



• **DIRECTOR** Vijay Jagadal
• **ACTORS** Vijay Jagadal, Krishi Thapanda, Mythri Jaggi, Chandana Raghavendra, Raam Chandan
• **CERTIFICATION** U/A
• **Duration** 139 minutes

The movie is about two incorrigible petty thieves who are ready to do anything for the sake of money. Rupayi begins with a scene where two thieves – Mohana alias Moni (Vijay Jagadal) and Sreenivas alias Seena (Mythri Jaggi) – are waiting for the right time to steal a two-wheeler. They get an opportunity to hijack a car owned by the leader of a cricket betting mafia. Both approach a scrap dealer to mortgage the vehicle. But Moni gets a phone call from his estranged lover Gowri (Krishi Thapanda) requesting him to help her marry her lover Devu (Shankar Murthy SR). Moni convinces Seena to help Gowri. On the way, they meet Chandru (Raam Chandan) who wants to end his life. After getting to know his pitiable story, they ask Chandru to accompany them.

When Gowri and Devu meet Moni and Seena, Moni tries his best to separate Gowri and her lover. At this juncture, the director introduces Seetha (Chandana Raghavendra), a sex worker. They decide to engage Seetha for a task. The climax is what happens to the sex worker, Gowri and her lover.

As far as the performance of the

actors is concerned, Vijay Jagadal, who plays the lead besides handling the megaphone, has acted well. His USP is dialogue delivery. He deserves a pat on the back for his performance, especially in a scene where he delivers a dialogue without a break for over a minute. Mythri Jaggi's acting tickles the audience's funny bones. Krishi Thapanda and Chandana Raghavendra look beautiful and have acted well.

The drawback of the movie is the action scenes which are too over the top. Had the director kept the screenplay crisp, the movie could have been a good entertainer for the mass audience.

It is worth a watch, but only if you have spare time.

—Y Maheswara Reddy

Jada okay in her skin

Actress Jada Pinkett Smith insists she no longer worries about external speculation.

The 51-year-old actress, who has been married to fellow Hollywood star Will Smith since 1997, has insisted she no longer worries about external gossip, reports femalefirst.co.uk.

She explained: "When you think about how people get a little older, and say what they need to say without a filter - they've earned that. When you get to my age, you get so settled in your skin, so comfortable in the knowingness of you, that you don't get concerned about what other people have to say. The elders earn that."

Jada acknowledges that she's been forced to make some compromises during her time in the movie business. She told the Guardian: "There are always those compromises you make that you hope don't totally pull you away from your roots. That's the difference between being confused, or being swallowed by becoming someone else."

— IANS

